Volume 21, Edition 8 August 2017

Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club WIRELESS

Frankly Speaking…

Hi All,

Hope summer is treating you well. This month we have N6P the weekend of the 19-20 at Pt Reyes. More details to follow.

Our club meeting is 8/16. Hopefully someone can get something rolling for a program. I will be out of town for both. Look for me portable on HF!

Until then, keep your amps tuned and aerials resonant.

—Frank KG6N

NEXT MEETING
Wed, August 16, 2017, 7:30pm
City of Sonoma EOC,
Sonoma Police Department
Topic: TBA

Minutes July 19, 2017

Members Present: Jim, K6UUW, Frank, KG6N, Carl, N6TVN, Ed, W1EJ, Stan, NJ6E, Eileen, KG6QNT, Wendy, KJ6ZMV, Robert, KA5WSS, Dick, KF6FZM, Matt, AK6RF, Declan, KA2QQO, Darrel, WD6BOR, San, N7PIB, Alan, K6KLL, Rachel, KI6DHG, Sam, W5LTP.

President:

The insurance has been approved for the Lighthouse on the Air weekend at Pt. Reyes. The date is the18th and 19th of Aug.

Treasurer:

Jan. 1 $1,613.32

Income $1,051.32

Balance $2,663.50

Old Business

Jim reported that the charity hike on Mt. Tam was cancelled.

New Business:

Rachel will host the club picnic on Sept. 9 at 4pm. Her address is 1900 Lovell Valley Rd.

There will be no monthly meeting or newsletter for that month.

Frank will miss the Aug. meeting.

The Christmas dinner will be at Mary's Pizza in Boyes Hot Springs on Dec. 6th.

A reminder that Eileen needs all newsletter items in to her by the second Wednesday of the month.

Meeting adjourned at 1944.

—Submitted by Jim, K6UUW, for Dave KD6FIL

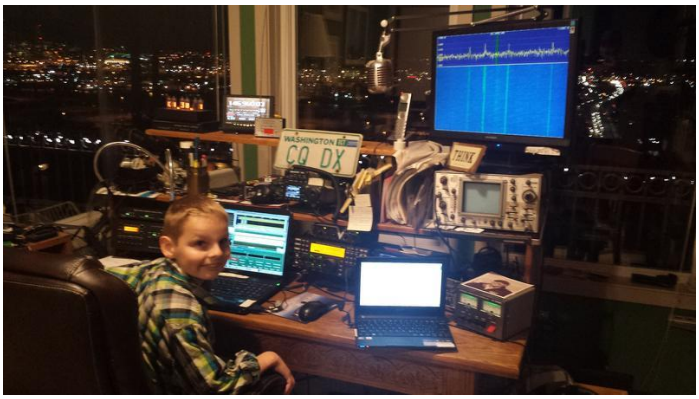
Newsletter Submissions

The VOMARC Wireless welcomes all articles, letters, essays, pictures, references and documents of interest to Ham Radio operators. Please email to: Eileen@vom.com.

The Newsletter is published monthly on the Friday before the monthly meeting (3rd Wednesday of the month).

Deadline is the Second Wednesday of the Month.

KG7OQT – Young Ham Wins First-Place Science Fair Trophy with Mag Loop Antenna Entry



A 10-year old ARRL member from Snoqualmie, Washington, took first place in his grade and division for a magnetic loop antenna project he entered into the Washington State Science and Engineering Fair (**WSSEF**). Dragan Tuip, KG7OQT, was among the more than 700 presenters at the fair, held April 1-2 in Bremerton. A 5th grade student at Yellow Wood Academy in Mercer Island, his project, "Modular HF Mag Loop Antenna," stemmed from his desire for a compact antenna to use in his room with his HF transceiver — a flea market bargain. According to his dad, Martin Tuip, KG7HAX, Dragan built the antenna himself and successfully tested by making JT65 contacts with Japan and Georgia. The 59th annual WSSEF marked Dragan's science fair debut.

"When they called my name during the award ceremony, I was stunned! I was amazed!" he told ARRL. "I learned that not everything is always the best, and some things still have room for improvement. I had several people already ask me if they could buy the antenna." One of his goals is to earn DXCC before he turns 11. He eventually hopes to market the antenna.

FT8 Mode is Latest Bright Shiny Object in Amateur Radio Digital World

It's still in beta testing, but FT8—the latest digital bauble to capture the imagination of the Amateur Radio community—has been luring away many of those already using the already-popular JT65 "weak-signal" mode. FT8 is included in a beta release of WSJT-X, version 1.8.0-rc1. Among its biggest advantages is a shorter transmit-receive cycle, meaning quicker contacts. The notes for the "candidate" release say that FT8 offers "sensitivity down to -20 dB on the AWGN channel." Contacts are four times faster than with JT65 or JT9, and an entire FT8 contact can take place in about 1 minute.

(from ARRL newsletter, 9/3/17)

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

ARRL President Issues Call for Members to Reach Out to their Senators to Support S. 1534

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, is calling on League members to urge their US Senators to support the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2017, S. 1534. ARRL has opened a RallyCongress page to simplify the task.

"[W]e are at a crossroad in our efforts to obtain passage of The Amateur Radio Parity Act," Roderick said. He said the campaign to secure passage of the bill scored a major victory earlier this year when H.R. 555 passed unanimously in the US House of Representatives. Obtaining passage of the companion Senate bill, S. 1534, is the final legislative hurdle.

(from ARRL newsletter, 7/27/17)

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

THE VOMARC WIRELESS

VOLUME 21 EDITION 7

A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club – W6AJF

Frank C. Jones – W6AJF

Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Frank Wiebusch KG6N – President

Scott Wellington KJ6QIQ – Vice President

Dave Dammuller, KD6FIL – Secretary

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Treasurer

Mike Miller, WB6TMH – Radio Officer

Moe Llanes, KI6JNU – ACS Unit Leader

Sanford Smith, N7PIB – VE Liaison

Jim Hill K6UUW – Elmer Coordinator, Training Officer, President Emeritus

Ken McTaggart, N6KM – Station Trustee for W6AJF

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Webmeistress, Editor

"Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC. "—S. Marler

CLUB MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of each month at the City of Sonoma Police Department EOC 175 1st St West. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

WEB PAGE: **http://www.vomarc.org/**

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

ACS holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

PACKET STATION INFO: The VOMARC packet station is off the air until further notice.

CLUB BREAKFASTS are held on the first Saturday of each month at Black Bear Restaurant, 201 W Napa St, #34 (Marketplace Shopping Center), Sonoma. The fun starts at 08:30 local.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

Eileen@vom.com

–or–

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.
C/O Sonoma Police Department
175 First Street West
Sonoma, CA 95476

2017 ACS
Net Control Assignments

	Name	Call
JANUARY	MOE	KI6JNU
FEBRUARY	JIM	KJ6UUW
MARCH	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
APRIL	JIM	K6UUW
MAY	DICK	KF6FZM
JUNE	MOE	KI6JNU
JULY	KEN	N6KN
AUGUST	GILL	KJ6EIG
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	FK6FZM
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

2017 VOMARC
Net Control Assignments

	Name	Call
JANUARY	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
FEBRUARY	JIM	K6UUW
MARCH	MOE	KI6JNU
APRIL	DAVE	KD6FIL
MAY	ED	W1EJ
JUNE	FRANK	KG6N
JULY	MOE	KI6JNU
AUGUST		
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	KF6FZM
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE AUGUST 16, 2016, 7:30PM,

CITY OF SONOMA EOC, SONOMA POLICE DEPARTMENT, 175 1ST ST W, SONOMA, 95476

SEE YOU THERE.

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP 2017

Membership Dues: $15/year individual; $5/year family member at same address.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.

QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address: _____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

VOMARC Membership: Complimentary with Class—Date: _____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen:

Dues may be mailed to VOMARC in care of the Sonoma Police Department, 175 1st St West, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC.**